

ABSTRACT

AL-IIA-134

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. ---(155)  
Gilpin, Maryland vicinity  
Public/private

1766/1767 (area surveyed/marked)  
1902 (new monument first set)

Milestone No. ---(155) and its mound of stones <sup>the south slope of</sup> on Warrier Ridge, mark a point on Mason and Dixon's West Line 149 miles and 17 chains "from the Post Marked West in Mr. Bryan's Field" or 146.222 miles from the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line, the boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. The monument is a dressed magnesian limestone post with a low pyramidal top; was quarried and carved in Cockeysville, Maryland; measured about 10 inches square by about 4 1/2 feet long, cut to stand about 1 1/2 feet high above ground (or mound) with the remainder <sup>in excellent condition, unaltered, and is</sup> for setting into the ground. It is <sup>only</sup> embellished with the capital letter P on the north side facing Pennsylvania, the year of the preliminary Mason and Dixon survey in this area (1766) on the east side, the capital letter M on the south side facing Maryland, and the year it was <sup>(1902)</sup> set by the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. The mound, also in excellent condition, is a large <sup>measuring about 12 feet in diameter</sup> high mound of stones, erected by Mason and Dixon in 1767 with a wood post (long since gone) to mark the survey point. On the national and state levels, this monument and mound are significant primarily as among the some 248 markers in the thematic group series still <sup>visually</sup> defining the West Line. Locally, as among the 37 markers (including 9 mounds) still defining the present Allegany/Fulton-Bedford-Somerset county boundary, No. ---(155) is also significant as among the diminishing number of objects and structures with an identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Magi No.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME** BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)  
 HISTORIC (Mason and Dixon's) WEST LINE, Post and Pile of Stones, marking  
 149 miles and 17 chains from the Post Marked West in Mr. Bryan's Field  
 AND/OR COMMON  
 MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. --- (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 155)

**2 LOCATION** (not for publication)  
 STREET & NUMBER off the north side of Black Valley Road, on Warrior Ridge  
 CITY, TOWN  
 STATE Maryland  
 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT MD: 6 / PA: 9  
 COUNTY MD: Allegany / PA: Bedford

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS N/A	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER state boundary marker

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY** (monument and mound only; see Thematic Group NR nomination form)  
 NAME State of Maryland / Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
 Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE, zip code

VICINITY OF

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION** (see Thematic Group NR nomination form)  
 and surrounding property ownership list) Liber #: Folio #:  
 COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS** (also see Thematic Group NR nomination form)  
 TITLE Allegany County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

AL-IIA-134 entered 6/2/81

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	(mound)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED (monument)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE (mound)
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	(monument)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED (mound)	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR			X monument added 19__
	DETERIORATED		
	RUINS		
	UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. ---(155) marks a point on Mason and Dixon's West Line 149 miles and 17 chains "from the Post Marked West in Mr. Bryan's Field" or 146.222 miles from the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line. The monument, of Cockeysville marble, was added to the center of a large original mound of stones during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. It is in excellent condition, unaltered, measures about 10 inches square by about 1½ feet above the mound, has a low pyramidal top; and is embellished only by the capital letters P on the north side, M on the south side, the year of the preliminary survey in 1766 on the east side, and the year it was set by the Resurvey (1902) on the west side. The mound is a large one (about 12 feet in diameter) and quite high, erected by Mason and Dixon in 1767, with large stones<sup>found</sup> at the site. It is also in excellent condition, slightly rebuilt (enough to allow for the setting of the stone), and at its original site.

The area here is a densely forested<sup>rock-strewn</sup> Warrior Ridge mountainside (called Little Warrior Mountain by Mason and Dixon), with very few houses in the foothills below. The site is within Election District 3 of Allegany County, MD, and Southampton Township of Bedford County, PA; about 2 miles north of the small settlement of Gilpin, MD; at a point about 1000 feet north of Black Valley Road and about 1200 feet west of the private lane leading to the Kifer farmhouse; on the<sup>steep</sup> south slope of Warrior Ridge, in a tangle of undergrowth just south of the old pipeline and an old east-west barbed wire fence. It cannot be seen from any road, any season, nor easily from nearby, and seems protected by this obscurity.

The monument, as with all 1902 monuments set west of Sideling Hill except for the replica crownstone No. ---(169) in Ellerslie, is a dressed magnesian limestone post with a low pyramidal top; was quarried and carved in Cockeysville, MD; measured about 10 inches square by about 4½ feet long, cut to stand about 1½ feet high with about 3 feet for setting into the ground (or, in this case, mound of stones). The only embellishments are the blocky capital letters P on the north side facing Pennsylvania and M on the south side facing Maryland, V-sunk without serifs, and the years noted above, all horizontally aligned as a band near the top. The letters and years<sup>clear and</sup> are<sup>intact</sup>, as are the<sup>top</sup> planes and apex except for minor chips at the top corners. The mound of stones, originally with a wood post "about 12 inches Square Marked W on the West Side..." (which had disappeared by the time of the Resurvey), is impressive from the lower (south) side, but scarcely noticeable when approaching from the north side, and seems quite undisturbed, though had to be opened enough to allow the setting of the

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY** monument.

(see Thematic Group NR nomination form for full descriptions of Mason and Dixon cairns)

## PERIOD

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="radio"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) boundary surveying
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1767 (mound of stones) 1902 (monument) ~~BUILDER/ARCHITECT~~ ☒ Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon  
SURVEYORS

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Milestone No. --- (155), a new Cockeysville marble monument of 1902 in the center of an original/<sup>1767</sup> large mound of stones, is significant on the national and state levels primarily as among the/<sup>thematic group series of</sup> some 248 markers (including 42 1/2 mounds) still visually defining Mason and Dixon's West Line, the 230.228-mile boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. Preliminarily surveyed in 1766, the site was marked the following year by a wood post surrounded by a pile of stones, and the survey point permanently marked in 1902 by a new monument during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as among the 37 markers along the present Allegany/Fulton-Bedford-Somerset county boundary, No. --- (155) is also significant as among the diminishing number of objects and structures with a readily identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acreQuadrangle name: Flintstone (Maryland-Pennsylvania), USGS 7.5 minute series,  
(topographic), 1950 photorev. 1974, scale 1:24000

UTM reference: zone 17, easting 71066, northing 439963

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE Maryland

COUNTY Allegany

STATE Pennsylvania

COUNTY Bedford

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason and Dixon's West Line boundary marker surveyor)

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust and Maryland Geological Survey

DATE

9/21/81 (site surveyed)

STREET &amp; NUMBER

14308 Mount Avenue

TELEPHONE

(301) 472-2128

CITY OR TOWN

Phoenix

STATE

Maryland 21131

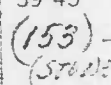
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

5363 IV  
CHANEY

78°30'



700 000 FE  
(MD.)

4472

(154)  
(STC 111)

440

43

42'30"



5





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MASON EDIXON'S WEST LINE: MILESTONE --- (155)  
STONE MONUMENT (1902) IN LARGE OLD MOUND OF STONES  
SE CORNER (11/1766)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 9/21/81 (1981.35.33)





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MASON EDINON'S WEST LINE: MILESTONE --- (155)  
STONE MONUMENT (1902) IN LARGE OLD MOUND OF STONES  
NW CORNER (P/1902)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 9/24/81 (1981.35.31)